



General Assembly

Distr.: General
12 February 2016
English
Original: Spanish

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

National legislation and practice relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
II. Replies received from member States	2
Mexico	2



II. Replies received from member States

Mexico

[Original: Spanish]
[1 February 2016]

With regard to the delimitation of outer space, article 27 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States establishes the following:

“The Nation shall have full ownership of all natural resources of the continental shelf and insular shelves; of all minerals or substances that are found in seams, strata, masses or deposits and that are distinct in nature from the components of the soil, such as minerals from which metals and metalloids used in industry are extracted; deposits of precious stones and rock salt and the salt pans formed by marine waters; the products of the breakdown of rocks, where their exploitation requires underground work; mineral or organic deposits of materials that can be used as fertilizers; solid mineral fuels; petroleum and all solid, liquid or gaseous hydrocarbons; and the space located above the national territory, to the extent and in accordance with the rules established by international law.”

While the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space has discussed the issues of boundaries and rules, no delimitation of outer space has been established to date. In that regard, it is important to highlight that States are developing both new space technologies and control mechanisms to monitor and safeguard their airspace — the activities of Mexico in those areas being fully regulated under Mexican legislation — and that if a delimitation of outer space is adopted, in principle that delimitation will have to be negotiated with the International Civil Aviation Organization and in relation to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention) and the Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to International Carriage by Air (Warsaw Convention).

Mexico is working on two drafts of secondary legislation to regulate space activities on the basis of the treaties to which Mexico is a party.